

What is claimed is:

1. A device for storing data, comprising:

an interfacing circuit that includes a data communication path through which said data can be bilaterally communicated between said device and an external device, which is coupled to said device with an interface cable, and a power-supplying path through which a power current can be bilaterally supplied between said device and said external device, wherein said interface cable also includes said data communication path and said power-supplying path;

a data-storing unit to store said data sent from said interfacing circuit; and

a plurality of interface connecting ports serving as input/output terminals of said interfacing circuit, wherein said interface cable can be connected to one of said interface connecting ports.

2. The device of claim 1,

wherein said external device is a personal computer and said data-storing unit is a magneto-optics disk drive, and a peripheral device can be also coupled to said device through another one of said interface connecting ports with another interface cable.

000001.10001

3. A device for storing data, comprising:

an interfacing circuit that includes a data communication path through which said data can be bilaterally communicated between said device and an external device, which is coupled to said device with a first interface cable, and a power-supplying path through which a power current can be bilaterally supplied between said device and said external device, wherein said first interface cable also includes said data communication path and said power-supplying path;

a data-storing unit to store said data sent from said interfacing circuit;

a plurality of interface connecting ports serving as input/output terminals of said interfacing circuit, wherein said first interface cable can be connected to a first interface connecting port being one of said interface connecting ports; and

a power-supply section to supply a first power current for driving said data-storing unit.

4. The device of claim 3,

wherein a peripheral device can be also coupled to said device through a second interface connecting port being

2025-11-10 10:01:14

- wherein a second power current, being a part of said first power current outputted by said power-supply section, is also supplied to said peripheral device through said power-supplying path included in said second interface cable connected to said second interface connecting port.

- wherein said external device is a personal computer and said data-storing unit is a magneto-optics disk drive.

- a power controller to control an amount of said second power current to be supplied to said peripheral device.

- a power controller to control said interfacing circuit in such a manner that a third power current, supplied from said external device through said first interface connecting port, is further supplied to said peripheral device through said second interface connecting port, only when said power

controller detects that said power-supply section is activated.

9. A device for storing data, comprising:

an interfacing circuit that includes a data communication path through which said data can be bilaterally communicated between said device and an external device, which is coupled to said device with a first interface cable, and a power-supplying path through which a power current can be bilaterally supplied between said device and said external device, wherein said interface cable also includes said data communication path and said power-supplying path;

a data-storing unit to store said data sent from said interfacing circuit;

a plurality of interface connecting ports serving as input/output terminals of said interfacing circuit, wherein said first interface cable can be connected to a first interface connecting port being one of said interface connecting ports, and plural peripheral devices are coupled to said device with plural interface cables through said interface connecting ports other than said first interface connecting port;

a power-supply section to supply power currents for driving said peripheral devices and for driving units and

2025-11-10 10:00:00

sections included in said device, wherein said units includes said data-storing unit;

a detecting section to detect power-status information sets pertaining to amounts of said power currents required for driving said peripheral devices coupled through said interface connecting ports and required for driving said units and sections included in said device; and

a power controller to adjust each of said amounts of said power currents to be distributed among said peripheral devices, said units and sections, on the basis of said power-status information sets detected by said detecting section.

10. The device of claim 9,

wherein a power current, supplied from said external device through said first interface connecting port and further supplied to one of said peripheral devices through one of said interface connecting ports, passes through said interfacing circuit as it is.

11. The device of claim 9,

wherein said power controller controls a power-supplying mode of said device, so as to share a total amount of a power current, supplied from said external device coupled through said first interface connecting port, and

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

another power current, supplied from said power-supply unit, among said peripheral devices coupled through said interface connecting ports other than said first interface connecting port.

12. The device of claim 9,

wherein said external device is a personal computer and said data-storing unit is a magneto-optics disk drive.

13. The device of claim 9,

wherein said power controller is driven by a power current supplied from said external device through said first interface connecting port.

14. The device of claim 9,

wherein said power controller is driven by a power current supplied from said power-supply section when said power-supply section is activated, while said power controller is driven by a power current supplied from said external device through said first interface connecting port when said power-supply section is deactivated.

09086614-110904